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TEACHERS' COLUMN.

J. G. CLINKSCALES, EDITOR.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

Again we find ourselves at our desk with pencil in hand, ready to tell the readers of the Teachers' Column something about the Institute that a few days ago closed so pleasantly at Williamston. If left to our judgment we would pronounce the Institute a big success; we are perfectly willing, however, to leave it to the verdict of the teachers who attended. It was our business to make the Institute as nearly perfect as possible—It is the business of the teacher-pupils to say what good, if any, was accomplished.

We had never met Dr. Klemm, the principal of the Institute. He measured up fully to his fine reputation as an instructor. He is beyond question a full man. Always ready, always pleasant, he is a most charming teacher. He has the enviable faculty of making every body in his presence feel quite at home, and that other still happier faculty of saying just what he wants to say and no more.

Miss Leonard is a Northern lady of very superior intelligence and very fine character. Her manner is easy and attractive, her voice clear and distinct, and her energy apparently boundless. Every minute seemed to be given to earnest preparation for the work before her, and the earnestness and tenderness with which she entered into her periods of instruction were remarkable, and certainly stimulating to the tired teachers who sat before her.

The other members of the faculty, Dr. Lander and Prof. Morrison, are well known to many of our readers. Their fitness, their peculiar fitness, for the position they were called upon to occupy, needs no mention at our hands. Those of our teachers, whose privilege it was to sit at the feet of Dr. Lander and Prof. Morrison last year and the year before, knew what to expect; suffice it to say they were not disappointed. The freshness of these two distinguished educators was highly enjoyed and appreciated by all our teachers.

During the two weeks the Institute lasted, 154 teachers enrolled, the large majority of whom being from Anderson and Greenville Counties. Nine other counties were represented, and six different States had each a representative. Our old friend and classmate, Dr. Pickel of the Florida State University, was with us and contributed no little to our enjoyment of the occasion. We would not forget to mention that Miss Maggie Graham, of Georgia, was with us. How glad we are to know that Miss Maggie thinks enough of Anderson County and of the Anderson County teachers to join them on such occasions as this! Her old friends and accquaintances were delighted to see her. Nor would we forget to mention Mrs. A. M. Darracott, of Sandy Springs. Mrs. Darracott is now ranked among the oldest teachers in the County, but old fogyism is a stranger to her. It was indeed refreshing to see how earnestly Mrs. Darracott strived to take in every truth that fell from the lips of the instructors. As nimble as a girl of sixteen and as bright in intellect as a teacher of fewer years of experience, her presence and bright example were a benediction to us all. As soon as we can get a list of the teachers who attended the Institute we will publish all the names in the Teachers' Column. Mr. Morrison, the secretary of the Institute, will send me a list as soon as he finds time to draw it off. Nearly all our teachers were present. We heard of some who could not attend; we heard of some who would not. For both these classes we are sorry. Especially are we sorry for their patrons and pupils. Our enthusiastic Institute man, Mr. D. H. Russell, of Townville, was not with us this time. The spirit was willing, even anxious, but the circumstances such as absolutely prevented his attending. We have it from Mr. Russell's own pen that his patrons were perfectly willing for him to go to Williamston. Some of them went to him and assured him that they appreciated the Institute work and thought he ought to go. Right here, we want to thank those liberal hearted people. Their teacher could not go to Williamston, but they showed their liberality and intelligence by going to him and expressing their willingness. We make this statement in justice to them.

From nine to two o'clock each day the time was devoted to regular school-room work, the length of each instructor's period being thirty minutes. The work of the instructors was laborious and the work of the teacher pupils was none the less so. Every teacher was requested to have his note book and the most of them had and used them well. Where that kind of work is done five hours on a stretch, the pupil is ready for his dinner and ready for the rest that follows. Of course, some of the teachers were not so diligent as they might have been. Some filled their note books, while others came off with very few leaves in theirs marked. It was indeed a school. Some of the pupils were diligent, while others were not. The work done there will tell on the schools during the next session.

We would not by any means forget to thank those trustees who favored us with their presence and approving smiles. Messrs. Gentry, Neal, King, Richardson, Cox, Elrod, Rosamond, Stone and Lander did us and their schools the justice to come and see what we were doing. Mr. Gentry missed but one or two days, and while there was behind none of his teachers in his efforts to learn. He sat with note-book and pencil in hand and carefully noted every good suggestion that fell upon his ears. *Satis pro hoc tempore.*

— "It's no use to feel of me wrist, doctber," said Pat, when the physician began taking his pulse, "the pain is not there, sir it's in me head entoirely."

— A lot of land containing 544 quares feet and fronting on Chestnut street, Philadelphia, was recently sold for $85,000, or $156 a square foot. At this rate an acre would bring $6,800,000.

THE BANE OF WHISKEY.

PROHIBITION IS THE CURE—AN ELOQUENT APPEAL FOR OUR HOMES AND OUR SONS.

Address of Rev. J. B. Hawthorne in Augusta, Ga.

Augusta Chronicle.

Dr. Hawthorne said: The best years of my life have been given to fighting an evil which is now universally conceded to be the worst enemy of our race. It has been with me so far, and I trust it will be to the end, a work of love. My labors in this sacred cause are rewarded only by the approval of my own conscience and by the joy which I experience in seeing truth and virtue triumph, and individuals, families and communities lifted from bondage into freedom. I can say without affectation that I have enjoyed even the persecution to which I have been subjected, because, in the midst of them, I have noticed that the angel of martyrdom is brother to the angel of victory Every anathema from a godless whiskey ring, or its hirelings, that has fallen upon me has been transformed by God's protecting goodness into a blessing to the righteous cause which I represent.

I abide in the conviction that success is as certain as the promises of a faithful Lord can make it. I believe that the patriotic and virtue-loving people of this country will arise in their majesty and stamp out this whiskey curse. They have done this in every community where they have been rightly influenced as to its magnitude and their danger.

This great movement originated with the people. The politicians would not deign to notice it until they saw that it was destined to sweep the country. Their eyes are open at last, and they now see that it is a question for statesmanship, and we have no lack of statesmen who are ready to ventilate it on the rostrum and in the halls of legislation.

It is a movement of the people, and the people will push it forward to complete and glorious success. We invite the politicians to go with us, but if they they decline we can and will succeed without them.

If they choose to lend themselves to the whiskey ring and attempt to defeat us, we will relegate them to an inglorious retirement, where they can have an opportunity to meditate upon their folly and repent of their sin.

My friends, we have reached the grandest epoch of our country's history. This decade of our national life is the pivotal point toward which the lines of past progress have converged, and from which will radiate the moulding influences of the future.

The time is upon us when we must and will decide whether this shall be God's country or the devil's—whether we shall be dominated by virtuous men or bad men, whether we shall have a reign of righteousness or a reign of diabolism.

What the friends of Christian civilization propose to do must be done quickly. If we fail to utilize the opportunities which are now afforded us, the time will soon come when we shall be completely at the mercy of the vandal hordes that are banded together for the destruction of all that is dearest and most sacred to us.

One of the calmest and most conservative thinkers upon this continent tells us that if emigration should continue at the present rate in 1900, a little more than twelve years hence, there will be in this country 19,000,000 persons of foreign birth. If we add to this number the children of these foreigners, we shall have upon American soil in the year 1900 about 43,000,000 of people in sympathy with foreign sentiments and customs. But if there should not be some legislation to check it, emigration will be much more rapid in the next twelve years than it has ever been. The vastness of our territory and the opportunities to acquire property in land, offer a powerful attraction to the crowded people of Europe. The prospect of great political and social upheavals is doing much to stimulate immigration. The question is seriously debated whether the present government of France can last five years longer. The sentiment of Germany to-day is Democratic. The death of William and Bismarck will be the signal for revolution. This is the conviction of the average German, and this feeling swells the tide of emigration. A distinguished member of the German Parliament recently said, "the German people have now but one want—money enough to get to America."

Nihilism is shaking Austria from centre to circumference. The throne of Russia stands upon a volcano. The spirit of revolution is strong and rapidly growing in every part of that vast empire. Every thoughtful man sees very clearly the changes which are destined to take place in Great Britain. Thomas Hume says, "We may despise the present advocates of social democracy, and make light of their sayings and doings, but no man who knows what is going on in England will deny that there will have to be a serious reckoning with them at no distant day." A writer in the British Quarterly says that "the retirement of Mr. Gladstone will be the breaking up of the great deep in English politics."

As these great upheavals become more imminent the spirit of emigration grows stronger.

Let us consider, too, that transportation has become so cheap almost any European pauper who wants to come to our country can come. In 1825 the cheapest passage across the Atlantic was $100. Now the steerage passage from Liverpool to New York is only $8.

Now, my friends, it behooves us to inquire what is the character, and what are the purposes of these people? I am not insensible to the high worth of many of our citizens of foreign birth. No one is more willing than I to admit that some of the most valuable contributions to our country's renown have been made by the genius and valor, and toils of her adopted sons. Many of the most enterprising and upright men engaged in our material industries, and many of the brightest lights in our institutions of learning, temples of justice and legislative bodies, have come to us from foreign shores.

These men are in full sympathy with our free institutions, and are aiding us in promoting a Christian civilization. It would be the last act of my life to say anything to wound their feelings or to bring suspicion upon their conduct.

But no one knows better than this class of foreigners that they do not represent the mass of immigrants to this country. The typical immigrant is a European peasant whose horizon has been narrow, and whose ideas of life are false and low. Thousands of them are criminals. It is estimated that seventy per cent. of the discharged convicts of certain countries of Europe have found their way to America. Think of it, my countrymen, seventy per cent. of Europe's discharged criminals are turned upon us to corrupt our civilization and to increase the peril to our peace, property and lives.

The majority of them are Socialists. Their avowed purpose is to overthrow existing social and economic institutions, and they expect to accomplish that purpose by fire and bloodshed. Their cry is: "Away with authority! Away with the State! Away with the family! Away with religion."

"Truth," a Socialistic paper published in San Fransancisco, recently said: "Let laboring men knock at the door of the wealthy robber with musket in hand and demand their share of the goods."

Herr Most concludes an article in his own paper in these words: "Religion, authority and the State are carved out of the same piece of wood—to the Devil with them all."

The recent manifesto of the Pittsburg Socialists says: "Agitation for the purpose of organization; organization for the purpose of rebellion." "All attempts at reform by peaceable means are futile; there remains but one recourse—force."

September 5th, 1883, a procession marched through the streets of New York, behind a banner on which were inscribed the words: "Prepare for the coming revolution." "Every man must have a breach-loader and know how to use it."

Soon after the attempt that was made to blow up the Houses of Parliament and the Tower of London, the Socialists of Chicago held a monster meeting at which the speaker indulged in such utterances as the following: "This explosion has demonstrated that Socialists can safely go into large congregations in broad daylight and explode their bombs." "A little hog's grease and a little nitric acid make a terrible explosion—ten cents' worth would blow a building to atoms." "Dynamite can be made out of the dead bodies of capitalists as well as out of hogs." "All Chicago can be set ablaze in a minute by electricity."

"Private property must be abolished if we have to use all the dynamite there is, and blow nineteen-hundreths of the people off the face of the earth."

Already there are 400,000 of these wretches banded together in this country to do the work indicated by their speakers and writers. Every day they are receiving recruits by the thousand.

In 1884 the Socialists of Germany cast 700,000 votes and elected twenty-four members to the German Parliament. Nine-tenths of the emigration from Germany to this country within the last five years have been from the ranks of the Socialists.

Now, the man is simply stupid who does not see that this already powerful and rapidly increasing organization means trouble for our country, and that nothing but the utmost vigilance and activity can prevent the accomplishment of their infernal purposes.

Where do these people stand on the question which we are here to consider? Without a solitary exception they stand on the side of the barroom. I challenge the world to find a Socialist or Nihilist on this continent or on any other continent who is not in favor of the unrestricted sale of liquor.

They are in favor of it not only because they all drink it, but because it helps them in the accomplishment of their diabolical aims. They are in favor of it, because every distillery and brewery and saloon is their ally. It helps to destroy religion. It helps to destroy the sanctity of home. It helps to produce lawlessness and to overthrow the State. They must have a thoroughly infidel and degraded class from which to get the material for their hellish work, and they know that the barrooms and distilleries and breweries are doing more to produce infidelity, degradation and brutality than all other agencies combined.

Destroy the liquor traffic of this country and you break the very backbone of Socialism and Nihilism. Destroy the liquor traffic and you preserve the Sabbath, you add 50 per cent. to the attendance upon religious worship; you greatly augment the power of the churches, and expel from society many vices which prevail only when saloons and doggeries abound.

In the United States there are 600,000 men engaged in the liquor business. Seventy-four per cent. of these are foreigners. What class of foreigners do we find in this business? Not the men of culture and refinement; not the law-abiding, virtuous Christian men; not men whom we would invite to our homes to associate with our families. No. They are anything but cultured, and refined, and law abiding, and virtuous, and Christian. They are coarse, and brutish, and unclean, and profane, and unbelieving.

They are men in whom animalism is supreme. In prosecuting their iniquitous vocation they are inspired not only by the greed of gain but by an intense animosity for everything that is pure and Christian in our American civilization. They believe that every drop of strong drink which they manufacture or sell helps to hasten the downfall of Christian institutions, and they know that with Christianity ovethrown there would be nothing to hinder the gratification of their vile earth-born passions.

The point, then, which I make and which I solemnly urge upon the attention of every true American is, that this monstrous combination known as the "Whiskey Ring," and to which every liquor manufacturer and liquor seller belongs, is the ally and the most potent ally of that rapidly growing organization whose purpose is to destroy American civilization.

Doubtless there are some men in the liquor business who are not in sympathy with these red-handed revolutionists; but they are a small minority. While they do not mean to give aid and comfort to such an enemy, every intelligent man sees as distinctly as he sees the sun in the heavens, that the hopes of Socialism and Nihilism are centered mainly in beer and whiskey.

There is not one liquor dealer in five hundred who respects the Sabbath. They are almost without exception, enemies to it, because it is an enemy to their business. They open their dirty dens upon that sacred day whenever they dare to do it. They know that a community without a Sabbath is practically a community without Christianity, and that a community without Chistianity is practically a community without virtue, and a land without religion and virtue is the base ideal towards which they are all working.

On a question of such momentous importance I cannot, I dare not temporize. I will speak the truth, let the consequences to myself be what they may.

Confronted by the facts which I present, I do not fear or hesitate to say that this Government, in legalizing and protecting the liquor traffic, is fostering the deadliest enemy to American ideas, institutions and liberty. It is simply nursing into power its own destroyer.

I go further. With a full sense of my responsibility to you and to Almighty God I deliberately and emphatically affirm that every American citizen who casts his ballot for the continuation of this curse, whether he means it or not, is simply voting for the overthrow of religion, home, virtue, and good government upon American soil.

I repeat, and challenge contradiction, that every bar-room in this broad land means a devilish conspiracy against our Christian civilization, and every friend to the bar-room and distillery is practically a supporter of that devilish conspiracy.

Now, when you consider that there are 260,000 of these dens of deviltry in our country—one to every 240 inhabitants—against 63,000 houses of worship, or one to every 950 inhabitants, you will have some conception of the mischief which is being done in generating sentiment at war with Christian ideas and practices.

I am sure that no true American can contemplate, without fear and trembling, the magnitude of this liquor power. I have said that there are in this country 260,000 saloons. Allowing twenty feet front to each, they would reach in an unbroken line from Augusta to Boston. What a picture for the lovers of virtue, home and country to behold! Has it ever entered into the mind of man, the amount of infidelity, lying, fraud, filth and deviltry represented by these 260,000 gateways to hell? Suppose some part of this globe were fenced off, and all of these vile dens and their keepers were put into it; is there a decent man under God's sun who would live among them? No; it would be worse than living among untutored Hottentots and Kaffirs. To find a more horrible place than that would be, a man would have to cross over the boundary of time and explore the rayless regions of the damned.

No thoughtful man can doubt that we shall have all over this great country a condition of things approximating that picture if our people permit this godless whiskey power to accomplish its devilish schemes.

In one of Daniel Webster's immortal speeches, he said: "God grant that when my eyes turn to behold for the last time the sun in heaven, I may not see it shining upon the broken fragments of a dismembered Union." My friends, I can think of a sadder sight for the dying patriot than that. This glorious Republic overthrown, and divided into twenty separate and distinct nationalities, would be a pleasing spectical for the eye of the expiring statesman, in comparison with an undivided country, ruled, corrupted, debased and damned by the despotism of whiskey.

The North American Review says that the capital invested in the liquor traffic in the United States amounts to one billion of dollars. Joseph Cook claims that it is vastly more than that. He says that Boston alone has $75,000,000 in the business. But think of even one billion of dollars in the hands of such men as are engaged in that iniquitous vocation. What a menace to the country's morals, to the country's homes and to the country's liberties. A billion dollers to make drunkards, paupers and criminals! A billion dollars to corrupt the ballot and bribe jurors, judges and legislators. Think of it, patriots; think of it, Christians!

Does anybody doubt that these men use their money for such purposes, when they do not themselves deny it or make any concealment of the fact.

At the Brewers' Congress, held in Buffalo, July 8th, 1868, President Clausen, speaking of the action of the New York Branch of the Association, relative to the excise law of the State, said: "Neither means nor money were spared during the last twelve months to accomplish the repeal of the detested law. Editorials, favorable to the repea , were published in sixty different newspapers. By such efforts, the former minority in the Assembly was changed into a majority of twenty votes in our favor."

Mark the words. "Neither means nor money were spared." "Editorials were published in sixty different newspapers." Ah! my countrymen! We know what that means. There are newspapers in this country that are under the control of an unpurchased and unpurchasable manhood; but every man among us knows that there are thousands of them that are always on the market, and for a pecuniary consideration will champion a cause, however iniquitous and infamous About the dirtiest thing on top of dirt is a dirty newspaper doing the dirty work of a dirty whisky ring.

"By such efforts," says President Clausen, "the former minority in the Assembly was changed into a majority of twenty votes in our favor. There is no mystery about that. It is as clear as a sunbeam. We spared neither means nor money. The results was, we secured a majority of twenty votes in the Assembly branch of the Legislature."

The utterances, and similar ones, led to an investigation of the methods by which that majorty had been secured; and during that investigation, one of the lobbyists testified that they had expended about $100,000 to influence legislation. Think of it ye friends of honest government!

But let us hear from another witness in that trial—an old and experienced lobbyist. He says: "After the election, (for delegates) and before the Legislature convened, our correspondents throughout the State gave us special and truthful descriptions of every one of the opposition members, their mode of life, their habits, their eccentricities and their religious views, so that we might understand our subjects in advance."

"If the stiff-necked legislator could not be induced to vote directly againt temperance measures, or persuaded to "dodge," he must be convinced that he was sick, threatened with hiptheria, or something else, and unable to leave his room. A sworn affidavit of the doctor to this effect costs "anywhere from $25 to $100."

The same witness testified that the whiskey lobby had paid a mortgage on the house of a State Senator, and that he never forgot the favor, and never afterwards voted against their measures.

This, fellow citizens, were some of the ways in which they used their $100,000 to get a majority of twenty votes in the lower House of the New York Legislature.

Have we already come to this? Are we tolerating, are we legalizing, are we supporting by our suffrages, a combination of men who make no secret of the fact that they have millions of dollars in their treasury which they are using to buy voters, jurors and legislators? Yes, it is even so, and no American in whose bosom virtue and patriotism still have a lodgment can contemplate the fact without the deepest emotions of humiliation and shame.

The men who are engaged in this business in the South are but little better, as a rule, than those engaged in the same pursuit at the North. I admit that we have men among us in the liquor traffic who are too honorable to engage in bribery, and who are conforming in every respect to the requirements of the laws of the State. Such men I respect, though I am deeply conscious of the injury and woe which they are inflicting upon society. But, I risk nothing in saying, that a large majority of the men engaged in the liquor traffic in the South, are shamefully and notoriously corrupt in character and practice; and there is not an intelligent Southern voter who does not know this indictment to be true.

The majority of them are foreigners, who represent the most revolutionary, lawless and godless element of Europe. There are comparatively but few Americans who are low enough to keep a doggery.

In our great local option contest in Atlanta there was scarcely a colored voter or a poor white voter who was not offered a bribe. I have publicly said again and again that not one colored man in Fulton county voted the "wet" ticket who was not paid for his vote. I have again and again challenged the Anti-Prohibitionists to find one and bring him to me, but no man has accepted my challenge.

Where did the money come from that was paid for the votes of these men? It came mainly from the saloon and doggery keepers of Atlanta. It came from the same men who since the adoption of prohibition have gone into what is known as the "wine room" business, and who, under the name of "domestic wines," have been selling the most villainous whiskey that ever went into a human stomach. A Georgia legislator took one drink of it and for thirty six hours afterwards thought he would never see his wife and children again. I am happy to inform you that what the courts have left of this dirty business has just been stamped out of existence by an act of our Legislature.

This will give us the cleanest, happiest, loveliest city on which the God of holiness looks down from heaven.

Is it not the desire of every virtuous Georgian that all Georgia should be clean? When you get down upon your knees my Christian brother, and pray, "Let thy Kingdom come, and thy will be done," do you not mean by that, that you desire the removal of this doggery curse from the world? Do you not mean by that to ask God to help his people to exterminate a traffic to which nine-tenths of the crime of Christendom are traceable? Or do you mean to say: "Oh, righteous Lord, take away all other sources of human corruption, calamity and woe, but let the dear doggeries remain!"

Do you want Georgia to be Germanized? A German member of our Legislature, the other day, had the audacity to stand up in that body of men, representing the Christian civilization of this State, and commend to our people German customs and German ideas of religion and liberty. If I had been a member of that body I would have said to him: "Sir, this is America, and by God's blessing we intend that it shall continue to be America. If you want German beer, German infidelity, and German Socialism, go back to your fatherland and stay there till you die. How dare you stand in our temple of government and insult the representatives of a Christian people by preaching to them the liberty of lust!"

Georgians, what will we do to save ourselves from the damnation of such ideas and such men, must be done quickly. Let us fix our civilization. Let us fix it on the God built foundation of our blessed Christianity. Let us while we can, turn out the whiskey devil, and when he goes out almost every other devil will go out with him. When that devil is expelled there will be nothing under these bright Georgia skies to attract the black bannered hordes of infidelity and Socialism within our borders. Our portals will still be open to the world—open to the people of every section of our own country, and to the inhabitants of every land beneath the sun—but only the industrious, honest, virtuous and law abiding will come.

From the mob cursed regions of the North and Northwest, thousands of enterprising, conservative and virtue-loving men are turning their eyes towards Georgia as a refuge from the gloom and horror which are brooding over them. They are ready to join us in the grand undertaking of making our dear old State the Paradise of the modern world.

Verily, "there is a tide in the affairs of men, which if taken at the flood leads on to fortune." Such a time, such a tide, such an opportunity is now upon us.

Is it not an ominous fact that the great Democratic party of Ohio, at its recent convention in Cleveland, inserted into its platform, and adopted without a dissenting voice, a plank which declares that it is the duty of all good citizens to aid in reducing to a minimum the evils resulting from the liquor traffic, and to favor the submission of the license question to a vote of the people? If the Democrats of Ohio can afford to do that what ought we to expect from the Democrats of Georgia?

Verily, there is a mighty shaking among the dry bones. Look at Texas! See how her leading statesmen and politicians are falling into line and keeping step to the music of prohibition. Witness the same spectacle in Tennessee, Arkansas and Alabama. In every quarter of the Union the forces are organizing and drilling for an Armageddon battle with the red-mouthed, red-nosed and red-handed warriors and worshippers of Bacchus.

Georgians, we who now live, hold in our hands the destinies of this Empire State of the South for ages to come. When Napoleon drew up his troops before the Mamelukes, under the shadow of the pyramids, pointing to the latter he said, "Soldiers, remember that from yonder heights forty centuries look down upon you."

A grander and more inspiring situation is ours to-day. From the pyramid top of opportunity on which the great God has set us, "we look down on forty centuries." We stretch our hands into the future with power to mould the destinies of unborn millions."

"We are living, we are dwelling
In a grand and awful time;
In an age on ages telling—
To be living is sublime."

Prediction of Earthquakes.

To Rudolf Falb, of Vienna, belongs the honor of predicting earthquakes. His first success was in 1873, when he foretold the Belluno earthquake of June 29, which shook almost all Northern Italy, and resulted in the destruction of some 50 lives. Since then he has constantly issued seismic predictions, some of which have been fulfilled and some not. His warning of the recent Riviera disaster was a conspicuous success, and has served to give him a reputation which it is the lot of few modern prophets to enjoy. Some days before the catastrophe he wrote to the Austrian papers, pointing out that according to his theory of which more presently) a critical period would be reached shortly after midnight on the morning of February 23, and true enough almost at the hour stated, the first and most destructive shock took place. It is not necessary to dwell on the particulars of the memorable event. Probably no earthquake in history ever produced so much nervous disturbance in proportion to the actual damage done, and certainly none can equal it in wealth of humorous incident. As an example of a prophecy unfulfilled it is worth noting that Falb is said to have also predicted that an earthquake would take place in the South of England on March 21; no seismic disturbance was felt on that day, but an amusing illustration of the inconvenience arising from the previons fulfilment of his forecasts was afforded by a lady of our acquaintance, who, upon hearing of the prediction of a fresh earthquake for March 21, dismantled her drawing-room, and carefully packed up china and other ornaments in anticipation of the event. The idea that the moon should have something to do with the production of earthquakes is a very natural one. The body whose attractive power raises the ocean tides exercises its influence on the dry land just as much as on the sea, and the only reason why the land does not respond to the attraction is because of its immobility. But a force so resisted means internal strain, and we have every reason to believe that, corresponding to the tide of movement on the ocean, there is a tide of strain on the land. How may this strain make itself apparent? A breath of autumn air brings down the leaves that have withstood a summer's gales, a snapping twig has loosened the Alpine avalanche. The crust of our earth is not solid. There are cavities and fissures in its mass, frail places, where only a touch, as it were, may collapse; and the series of changes so begun may involve a continent in ruin before it is ended. And the tidal strain, as it passes regularly round the globe, may one day supply just the needed touch, thus becoming an agent of destruction none the less potent because it only plays the part of trigger-puller. The theory is plausible, and to a certain extent the resarches of Prof. Perrey bear it out. He found that earthquakes are rather more frequent when the tidal pull is strong—that is, when the sun and moon are pulling in line, (at new or full moon,) and when the moon is in the part of her orbit nearest to the earth, (perigee.) The difference, however, was only small, and as other investigators have arrived at contradictory results, the lunar theory in this form has not held its ground.

— In South Carolina the average yield of corn is eight bushels per acre. In North Carolina it is twelve bushels; in Georgia, nine bushels. It is higher in Tennessee than any other Southern State, there running up to twenty bushels. In the Northern States, Kansas has the best record, her average yield being 36½ bushels; Nebraska comes next with 36 bushels. Pennsylvania makes the best showing of all the Middle States, with an average of 28½ bushels, closely followed by New Jersey with 28 bushels. There is plenty of room left for better farming all over the country.

— James H. Richardson, executor of the late Colonel Ed. Richardson, of Mississippi, has the biggest cotton crop in the world. It covers 38,000 acres. He has 7,000 acres in corn.

Some Light on the Convict Labor Question.

WASHINGTON, July 24.—The commissioner of labor has just received from the public printer advance copies of his report on convict labor in the United States.

The total number of prisoners of all grades employed in the institutions comprehended in the report is 64,349, the males numbering 58,454 and the females 5,895. Of this total number 45,277 are engaged in productive labor of some kind, 15,100 are engaged in prison duties, and 3,972 are sick or idle. Of the total number 14,827 are employed under the public account system, 15,670 under the contract system, 5,676 under the piece price system and 9 104 under the lease system. The State having the largest number of convicts in the institutions considered, is New York, its total being 9,703.

Included in these computations are 1,240 prisoners of the United States sentenced to different penal institutions of the several States and Territories. The prison population of the classes of institutions treated of is, as stated, 64,349, a proportion of population of the United States as at present estimated of 1 in 930, but the proportion to those engaged in mechanical, agricultural and mining pursuits in the whole country is about 1 convict to every 300 persons employed. The total value of goods made and work done by productive labor in the penal institutions of the whole country is $28,753,999. It took 45,277 convicts one year to produce this total value. It would have taken 35,534 free laborers to produce the same quantity of goods in the same time; or, in other words, a free laborer is equal to 1.27 convict, or to reverse the statement, 1 convict is equal to .78 of a free laborer. The number of free laborers necessary to perform the same labor has been figured from the estimates of prison officials and others familiar with the work.

The State producing the largest amount of convict-made goods is New York, the value there being $6,236,267 worth of convict-made goods. Indiana comes next with a product of the value of $1,570,901, while Ohio stands next with a product of the value of $1,368,122; then Missouri, $1,342,020, then Pennsylvania $1,317,265, Kansas $1,270,575, Tennessee with only $1,142,000, then Michigan $1,087,735, and last of the States producing over a million dollars worth, New Jersey, $1,019,608. Each of the other States and Territories drop below the million dollar point, Dakota coming at the bottom of the list, with a product of $11,577.

The commissioner discusses at length the system of employing convicts now in vogue. In each of these serious faults are found, the principal one being that by either of them convict labor is brought into direct competition with free labor. The plan which finds most favor with the commissioner is that of hand labor under the public account system. Of this plan he says:

"It involves the carrying on of the industries of the prison for the benefit of the State, but without the use of power machinery, tools and hand machines only being allowed, the goods to be made to consist of such articles as boots and shoes, the coarse woollen and cotton cloth needed for the institution, or for sale to other institution, harness and saddlery, and many other goods now made by machinery or not now made at all in prisons. With such a plan in vogue throughout the United States or in the majority of States there could be no complaint as to the effects of convict labor upon the rates of wages or upon the sale of goods, either in price or in quantity. The convicts could be constantly employed under direction and supervision entirely of prison officers. None of the objections or disadvantages arising under the contract system, or piece price modification thereof, or under the public account system with power machinery, can be raised against this plan."

The Skin of the Earth.

We talk a good deal about boring and digging into the bowels of the earth. It is a mistake. We have never reached the bowels of the earth any more than the bill of a gnat that pricks you on the abdomen reaches your bowels.

The human skin is about one two hundreths and fiftieth of the diameter of the body; allow the earth a skin proportionately thick and it will be 30 miles through.

The deepest borings have been about a half mile, not through the false or outer layer of skin; not near to the cutis vera. The highest mountains have only shown us what may be about one fifteenth the thickness of the earth's skin. Could we go through this thick hide into the real flesh and blood of the earth what wonders might be discovered!

At the last session of Congress there was a movement to get an appropriation to bore a hole as deep as it could possibly be made under the diction of the best engineers, but it failed. Money so appropriated would be spent to much better purpose than that appropriated for explorations to the north pole and many other objects.

The heat and gasses of the earth's interior are to be the forces of the future for motor power, lightning and heating. A bore 10, 15, 20, 30 miles deep may be impossible, but he is not wise who says impossible of anything within human endeavor.

We simply mean that, since so much has been discovered by merely scratching and puncturing the false skin of the earth, might not wonderful results be obtained by reaching through its skin?

— The Hon. J. N. Lipscomb, who was secretary of State of this State, has been appointed chief clerk of the patent office Washington, *vice* Duryea resigned. The salary is $2,250 a year.

— The reduction of letter postage to two cents is benefiting the postoffice department as well as the public. The reports for the fiscal year from the first-class postoffices show a considerable increase over last year's receipts, and it is thought that the department may soon be made self sustaining.

A Great Movement.

According to the statistical report of the Sunday schools in the United States rendered at the late International Convention held in Chicago, there has been an increase in the scholar membership of all the Sunday schools in the United States since 1884 of 365,645. It is interesting to know by what agencies this increase has been secured, for it shows that a great missionary work has been done to bring an army of 365,000 into active membership with our Sunday schools. No more important work can be conceived of, for it has to do with the destiny of our entire country.

The three last annual reports of the American Sunday School Union, the old undenominational society "that cares for the children," who are provided for by no one else, show that since 1884 it has brought 185,034 children into 4,947 new Sunday schools, a number equal to 5,000 more than one half of all the increase reported as having been secured by this and all other agencies during these three years. But this American Sunday School Union did more than this—it aided 4,825 other schools, which have 46,774 teachers and 515,714 scholars—so that in these three years it reached 9,872 communities and Sunday schools, and 700,748 children and youth, and then reaided and revisited these schools 9,245 times, besides making 92,584 visits to families, supplying 49,019 destitute persons with the scriptures and holding 27,247 religious meetings. That there is great need for more of just such work in our country is evident from the fact that according to the international secretary's report there are but 8,034,478 scholars in all the Sunday Schools in the United States, that report to this convention, which the chairman of the Executive Committee said was five per cent. too small. If five per cent. were added, we have 8,436,201 scholars in all our Sunday Schools. But the statement was made that 20 per cent. should be deducted for those over twenty-one and under six years of age and those who attend more than one school and are counted twice, which deducted would leave 6,748,961 children and youth of school age in all our Sunday Schools, while there are at least 9,000,000 more children of that age in our country, and very likely most of them attend no Sunday School.

Truly the American Sunday School Union is doing a great work, for present and future America, for which there is most urgent need. Any who would like to read its last annual report, or aid its work by gift of funds may send to

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Died While in Bathing.

On last Thursday, at Col. C. S. McCall's mill, near town, about 6 o'clock p. m., Mr. Henry B. Easterling went in bathing in company with Messrs. John McIntosh and Jack Crossland, and was seemingly as well as ever. Shortly after getting into the water they entered into a tussel over a melon which they had with them, and in a few seconds Mr. Easterling turned and went to shallow water. After he had reached a place where the water was only about two feet deep he kept turning about as if playing in the water, and nothing wrong was suspected for the moment. But in a few seconds it was noticed that he was remaining under water rather long, and upon taking hold of him they found he was dying. He was immediately taken out and every thing possible done to restore life, but all of no avail. In a short time he was dead. Early next morning the corner held an inquest over the body of the deceased and the verdict of the jury of inquest was, in substance, that deceased came to his death by drowning, which was superinduced by an attack of asthma, congestion, epilepsy, or some other cause which for the time disabled him.

Mr. Easterling was a good swimmer, and we are informed would not have drowned where he was if not disabled in some way, and as he was subject to asthma it is thought probably that he had congestion.

A Plea for the Birds.

Aside from its incomparable song and its bright, vivacious ways, the mocking bird is of great value to those who own orchards or vineyards. No bird, if we except the cat-bird, is so great a destroyer of insects, grubs and larvæ that infest orange, pear, pecan and peach trees, and whoever has observed closely will admit that no scuppernong vine should be without its mocking bird to defend it from its enemies. When you suffer the mocking-birds to be destroyed you permit the doom of fruit growing to be sealed on the Gulf coast. Twenty years ago the apple, peach, and pear crops of Indiana were superabundant; now they are scarcely of any value in a general way; the secret is the destruction of insectiverous birds. In India, as on the Gulf coast, the climate has had to bear all the blame, while the shotgun, the net, and the snare have been doing the work; still the truth remains that it is no colder now than it was forty years ago, when fruit trees flourished in Indiana and when the orange trees were loaded every year all round the Gulf coast.—*New Orleans Democrat.*

— Texas is getting compensation for last year's drouth. Crops all over the State are gloriously fine. The yield of cotton, it is thought, will reach 2,000,000 bales, which will bring $90,000,000.

— It is now shown that under cover of partly valid and wholly invalid Spanish and Mexican grants, and sometimes without any grant at all, the United States, through the collusion of various officials, acting in the interest of land speculators, have been defrauded of nine millions of acres in New Mexico.

— By the latest returns of the agricultural department, the leading farm products of the country amount to $4,014,000,000 yearly. That alone, independent of manufactures, fisheries, &c., represents an average income of $70 a year for every man, woman and child in the country.

Josh Billings on Marriage.

Sum marry bekause they have been highsted sum war else; this is a cross match, a bay and a sorrel: pride makes it endurable.

Sum marry for love, without a cent in their pocket nor a friend in the world, nor a drop of pedigree. This looks desperate, but it iz the strength of the game.

Sum marry bekause they think wimmin will be scarce next year, and live to wonder how the crop holds out.

Sum marry to get rid of themselves, and discover that the game was one that two could play at, and neither win.

Sum marry the second time to get even, and find it a gambling game, the more they put down the less they take up.

Sum marry, they can't tell why, and live, they can't tell how.

Almost everybody gets married, and its a good joke.

Sum marry in haste, and then sits down and thinks its carefully over.

Some think it over carefully fust, and then set down and marry.

Both ways are right if they hit the mark.

Sum marry rakes to convert them. This is a little risky, and takes a smart missionary to do it.

Sum marry coquetts. This is like buying poor land, heavily mortgaged, and working the balance of yure days to keep clear oph the mortgage.

But after all, married life iz as uncertain as the dry goods business.

No man can swear exactly whar he will fetch up when he touches calico.

No man can tell just what calico has made up its mind to do next.

Calico don't even know herself.

Dry goods of all kinds iz the child ov circumstancis.

The man who stands on the bank shivering, and dassent, is more apt to ketch cold than him who pitches his head fust into the river.

If anybody asks you whi you got married (if it needs be) tell him you don't recollekt.

Marriage is a safe way to gamble—if yu win, win a pile, and if yu lose, yu don't lose anything, only the privilege of living dismally alone, and soaking yure own feet.

Incinerated by Turpentine.

A frightful accident occurred at the turpentine distillery of Hilliard Goodwin in the upper part of Sandy Run Township, Lexington County, on Tuesday morning.

Tom Griffin (white) who attends the still, went into the still house just before day with a kerosene lamp, and by his careless handling overturned a barrel of spirits and set fire to its contents. He made a desperate effort to extinguish the burning fluid with sand from the floor but in an incredibly short time the flames communicated with the hot spirits in the still, and all the stock about the building and Griffin and the entire establishment was burned up in sight of Mr. Goodwin and several others who were powerless to render any assistance to the burning man, or stay the progress of the flames.

Griffin's body was entirely consumed by the fierce flame, and when the fire exhausted itself no part of his remains could be found.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

The Orangeburg correspondent of the *Register* gives another account of the disaster, as follows:

"News reached here to-day of the burning of Hilliard Goodwin's turpentine still, in